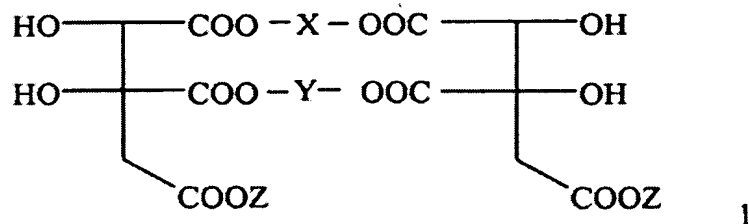


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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS, COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS
IN ASCENDING ORDER WITH STATUS INDICATOR

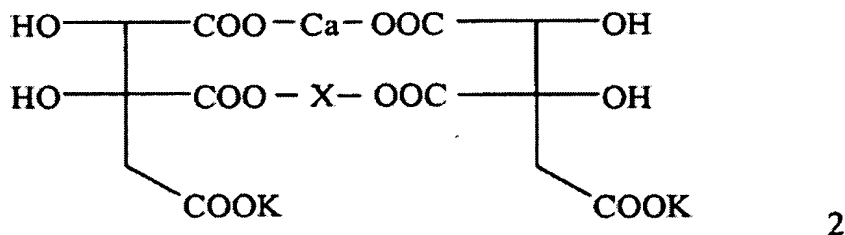
Please cancel claim 8.

1. (Currently Amended) Triple metal salts of (-)-hydroxycitric acid having the general formula 1



wherein X, and Y are selected from zinc or group IIA metals, and Z is selected from group IA metals of the Periodic Table.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The triple~~ Triple metal salts of (-)-hydroxycitric acid having the formula 2



wherein X is magnesium or zinc.

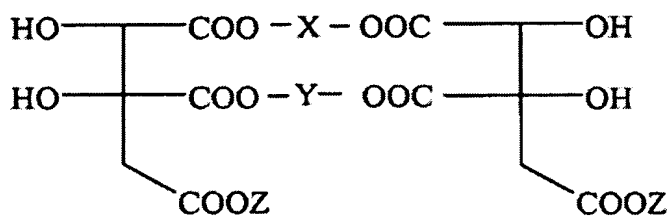
3. (Currently Amended) The triple metal salts of (-)-hydroxycitric acid as claimed in claims 1 ~~and~~ or 2, wherein at least two metals are independently selected from zinc or a group IIA metals, and Z is a metal selected from group IA metals of the Periodic Table.

4. (Currently Amended) The triple metal salts as claimed in claims ~~1 to 3~~ or 2, wherein group IIA metals are independently selected from Be, Mg, Ca, Sr, Ba or Ra in the form of their carbonates, oxides or hydroxides.

5. (Currently Amended) The triple metal salts as claimed in claims ~~1 to 3~~ or 2, wherein group IA metals are selected from Li, Na, K, Rb, Cs or Fr in the form of carbonates or hydroxides.

6. (Currently Amended) The triple metal salts as claimed in claim 1, ~~containing~~ further comprising 50 to 75% of HCA, 0 to 0.5% of lactone, 3 to 8% of calcium, 1 to 5% of magnesium, and 8 to 20% of potassium.

7. (Original) A process for preparing triple metal salts of (-)-hydroxycitric acid of the formula 1



1

which comprises the slow addition 0.5 molar equivalent of group II A metal compound to the purified aqueous extract of hydroxycitric acid followed by the addition of other group II A 0.5 molar equivalent of metal compound and 1 molar equivalent of group I A metal compound.

8. (Canceled).

9. (Original) A process for the preparation of triple salts of HCA comprising reacting a suspension of calcium hydroxycitrate with aqueous magnesium carbonate followed by aqueous potassium hydroxide solution.

10. (Original) A process for the preparation of triple salts of HCA comprising reacting an aqueous tripotassium hydroxycitrate with equimolar amounts of calcium hydroxycitrate and magnesium hydroxycitrate.

11. (Currently Amended) The processes as claimed in any one of ~~the~~ claims 7, 9 and 10 to 10, wherein the metal compounds are hydroxides, oxides and carbonates of calcium, zinc or magnesium and potassium.

12. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in any one of ~~the~~ claims 7, 9 and 10 to 10, wherein said triple salt is separated from the reaction mixture by adding water miscible solvents and filtering or by spray drying the aqueous solution.

13. (Original) The process as claimed in claim 12, wherein said water miscible solvents are alcohols, acetone, acetonitrile, dioxan, tetrahydrofuran or mixtures thereof.

14. (Original) A therapeutic formulation containing triple salts of HCA as claimed in claim 1, for treating obesity.

15. (Original) A dietary or nutraceutical formulation containing triple metal salts of (-)-HCA as claimed in claim 1.

16. (Original) A beverage containing triple metal salts of (-)-HCA as claimed in claim 1.